

DEVICE FOR AND PROCEDURE FOR METHOD OF DISCHARGING DRAINING A COOKING LIQUID FROM A FOOD PRODUCT COOKING APPARATUS COOKER

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

5 This application is the US national phase of PCT application PCT/EP2003/011026, filed 6 October 2003, published 29 April 2004 as WO2004/034861, and claiming the priority of Italian patent application MI2002A002212 itself filed 18 October 2002, whose entire disclosures are herewith incorporated by reference.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

10 The present invention refers to a device and procedure for method of discharging draining a cooking liquid from a food product cooking apparatus cooker. In particular, hereafter reference shall be made to cooking apparatuses like fryers. It is, however, clear that the same teachings can advantageously be 15 used on similar apparatuses like electrical pasta cooking apparatuses cookers, rice cookers, etc.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

20 For some time fryers have been present on the market equipped with an oil-containing bowl vessel and a basket which can be inserted in the bowl vessel in which the food products to be fried are to be housed held.

25 As is known, such fryers after a certain number of cooking cycles require the replacement of oil; however, this operation is very laborious since the entire fryer must be tipped up to pour out the oil from the bowl vessel.

It is clear that such an operation can cause numerous drawbacks, among [[st]] which we mention the danger of burning for the user and the staining of the resistance heating coils or other electrical parts of the fryer.

5 To avoid these drawbacks devices have been developed which allow the oil to be tipped out without the fryer needing to be tipped-up raised or tilted. Such devices comprise bendable tubes made from flexible rubber equipped with an end cap. In practice, in a rest position these tubes are bent and housed in 10 suitable seats formed in the body of the fryer, whereas in work position the tubes are removed from the bending configuration unbent and the cap is taken [[away]] off so as to discharge drain the oil, all while keeping the fryer in a flat position.

15 However, such devices have also presented numerous drawbacks, including the fact that the flexible rubber tubes do not ensure sufficient stability and safety and it is possible that, during the discharge draining of the oil, due to oscillations or vibrations, prompted for example by their own elasticity or by knocks or displacements of the fryer, the oil 20 falls or splashes out [[from]] of the container [[where]] in which it is being collected.

25 Moreover, the rubber element, due to the heat and the repeated bending, tends to become damaged through time. [[;]] The harmful effect of the discharge of draining oil, which can seep through the slits of the tube, is clear.

Moreover, with conventional fryers it is usually very difficult to adjust the amount of control the rate at which the cooking liquid to be discharged is drained and, moreover, sometimes the cap is removed after the tube has been removed and 5 rectified, usually causing inconvenient drips.

OBJECTS OF THE INVENTION

The technical task proposed object of the present invention is, therefore, that of realising providing a device and 10 procedure for method of discharging draining a cooking liquid from a food product cooking apparatus which cooker that allows the aforementioned technical drawbacks of the prior art to be eliminated.

Another object in this technical task a purpose of the invention is that of realising to provide a discharge device and 15 procedure which are very stable and safe, in particular during [[the]] discharge of the cooking liquid.

Yet another purpose object of the invention is that of realising to provide a discharging draining device which is not subject to damage, due to heat and repeated bending, through 20 time.

A further purpose of the invention is that of realising to provide a discharge device and procedure [[which]] that allow the discharge of liquid to be partialised and, therefore, to be controlled. [[;]] In this way it is possible to control the 25 liquid which comes out is draining from the apparatus for example to take it to a certain level in the collection container and/or

in the bowl vessel of the apparatus, or else to fill the collection container without making it overflow.

The last but not least purpose object of the invention is that of realising to provide a discharging draining device and procedure [[which]] that allow the amount of cooking liquid to be discharged to be adjusted and, moreover, [[which]] that allow inconvenient drips to be prevented. Advantageously, the partialisation is accompanied by the variation of the inclination of the tube.

10 SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

These objects technical task, as well as these and other purposes, according to the present invention, are accomplished attained by realising a device for discharging draining a cooking liquid from a food product cooking apparatus cooker, characterized in that it comprises a valve means for intercepting said the cooking liquid and an outside conveyance means conduit of said the apparatus.

20 The present finding invention also refers to a procedure for method of discharging draining a cooking liquid from a food product cooking apparatus cooker, characterized in that it consists of rotating a substantially rigid tube, connected to a valve means for intercepting liquid, from an upward orientation to a downward orientation, simultaneously and progressively taking said intercepting means valve from a closed 25 position to an open position, so as to allow the discharge of

said the liquid through said the intercepting means and said the tube.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

Further characteristics and advantages of the invention
5 shall become clearer from the description of a preferred but not exclusive embodiment of the device and procedure for method of discharging draining a cooking liquid from a food product cooking apparatus cooker according to the finding invention, illustrated for indicating and not limiting purposes in the attached
10 drawings, in which:

—figure FIG. 1 shows a perspective view of a cooking apparatus like a fryer equipped with a discharging draining device according to the present finding invention;

—figure FIG. 2 shows a cross section of the discharging draining device of figure FIG. 1 in closed configuration; and

—figure FIG. 3 shows a cross section of the discharging draining device of figure FIG. 1 in open configuration.

SPECIFIC DESCRIPTION

With reference to the quoted figures, an apparatus for cooking food products is shown, wholly indicated with reference numeral 1. The apparatus 1 consists of is a fryer but, in other examples, can be an electric pasta cooking device or [[a]] rice cooker. The apparatus 1 has, connected to a lower portion thereof, a device 2 for discharging draining a cooking liquid for
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5 food products. The discharging draining device comprises a valve means 3 for intercepting the liquid and an outside conveyance means conduit 4 of the apparatus. The intercepting valve means 3 are placed between the conveyance means conduit 4 and a bowl vessel 5 of the device apparatus 1 containing the cooking liquid.

In a preferred embodiment the intercepting valve means can be partialised and comprise a body housing 6 connected to the bowl vessel 5 and defining a seat in which a hollow shutter valve body 7 is connected, mobile between an open position (shown in figure FIG. 3) and a closed position (shown in figure FIG. 2). Advantageously, the conveyance means conduit 4 comprises a substantially rigid tube which is connected to the shutter valve body 7, a recess passage 8 of the shutter valve body being aligned [[to]] with a recess passage 9 of the tube 4.

15 Suitably, In the open position the tube 4 is substantially vertical or tilted upward, and in the closed position the tube 4 is tilted downward.

20 As shown in the attached figures, the body housing 6 is realised in comprised of two portions parts 6a, 6b connected together with the interposition of a gasket 10, [[with]] the portion part 6b which has having a groove 11 in which the tube 4 is slidably housed and [[which]] that limits [[the]] displacement through between two tilted angled end walls 20.

25 Moreover, the discharging draining device 2 comprises a tubular connection element connecting tube 12 placed extending between the bowl vessel 5 and the body housing 6 of the valve

means, ; appropriately, the connection element The tube 12 is tilted downward away from the bowl 5.

The operation of the device for discharging draining a cooking liquid from a food product cooking apparatus cooker according to the invention is clear from that which has been described and illustrated and, in particular, is substantially the following: [[.]]

When one wants to discharge drain the cooking liquid [[like]], for example [[,]] the oil of a fryer from the bowl vessel 5, the tube 4 is lowered lowers as indicated by the arrow F1.

The lowering of the tube 4 causes the rotation of rotates the shutter valve body 7 in its seat and, therefore, [[the]] progressively aligns alignment of its recess passage 8 with the recess passage of the tube 12, allowing the oil to [[go]] flow out.

Advantageously, if the tube is only partially rotated, without taking moving the passage 8 of the shutter valve body into perfect alignment with the recess passage of the tube 12, the flow of oil discharged can be partialised limited.

To take the tube back into its rest position (FIG. 2) it is sufficient to rotate it as indicated by the arrow F2 up to vertical position.

Preferably, the tilted angled walls 20 of the groove 11 also constitute [[the]] end stops for [[the]] rotation of the tube 4 and define the closed position of FIG. 2 [[()]] with the

tube 4 vertical []) and the open position of FIG. 3 [() with the tube 4 tilted downward []).

The present finding invention also refers to a procedure for method of discharging draining a cooking liquid such as oil from a food product cooking apparatus cooker such as a fryer.

The procedure consists of rotating the substantially rigid tube 4 [,] connected to the valve means 3 for intercepting that normally blocks outward flow of the liquid, from an upward orientation to a downward orientation, simultaneously and progressively taking moving the intercepting means valve 3 from a closed position to an open position, so as to allow the discharge of the liquid through the intercepting means 3 and the tube 4.

In practice, it has been noted how the device and procedure for method of discharging draining a cooking liquid from a food product cooking apparatus cooker according to the invention [are] is particularly advantageous and because they are particularly safe and reliable.

The device and procedure for method of discharging draining a cooking liquid from a food product cooking apparatus cooker thus conceived are susceptible to numerous modifications and variants, all covered by the inventive concept; moreover, all of the details can be replaced with technically equivalent elements. In practice, the materials used, as well as the sizes, can be whatever according to the requirements and the state of the art.